

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 974

By DeBerry L

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Paul Holly upon his induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those citizens who, through unwavering dedication and unflagging commitment to excellence, have distinguished themselves as leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Paul Holly, who has, for more than thirty-two years, dedicated himself to the education and instruction of young athletes; on March 15, 2008, Mr. Holly will be inducted into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Hall of Fame, a most befitting recognition of his outstanding service to Tennessee high school athletics; and

WHEREAS, while attending Mississippi Industrial College in Holly Springs, Mr. Paul Holly began his accomplished officiating career; and

WHEREAS, a longtime resident of Memphis, Paul Holly joined the TSSAA in 1964 and soon proved to be an excellent football, track and field, basketball, and volleyball official; he became well-known for the fairness of his judgment and his knowledge and understanding of the sports he officiated and even served as the inspiration and mentor for many younger officials; and

WHEREAS, the éclat with which he performed his duties on the field and court garnered him a reputation as one of the best high school officials in the area. As a basketball referee, he worked seventeen district tournaments, twelve regional tournaments, five sub-state games, and two state tournaments, while he officiated twelve football playoff contests; and

WHEREAS, following his retirement as a field official in 1985, Mr. Holly became a TSSAA Supervisor of Officials with the Mid-South Football Officials Association, an office which he held until 1996; and

WHEREAS, Paul Holly also served TSSAA and the State's youth as both a teacher and a football and track and field coach at Cypress Junior High School; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Holly's impressive officiating abilities earned him positions at the collegiate and professional levels as well; for college basketball, he worked for the Volunteer State, Metro, Southwestern Athletic, and Ohio Valley Conferences; for football, he worked for the collegiate Southwestern Athletic Conference and the professional World Football League; and in basketball he worked for the National Basketball Association and American Basketball Association; and

WHEREAS, the significance of Paul Holly's impact cannot be adequately measured by his number of years as a TSSAA official; his positive impact on the lives of students, athletes, fellow officials, and administrators will continue to resound in the community and throughout Tennessee for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, during his illustrious career, Mr. Holly has enjoyed the loving support of his wife, Marion, and his children, Don Burnell and Trina; and

WHEREAS, for his many accomplishments, his impeccable moral standards, and his impressive work ethic, Paul Holly has been selected for induction into the TSSAA Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Holly, as a man of true character and commitment, exemplifies the type of selfless community servant and civic leader who fellow Tennesseans admire for their tireless efforts in molding the State's youth and guiding them with solid principles and high standards both in the athletic arena and in daily life; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join the family and friends of Mr. Paul Holly in congratulating him upon his induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame, honor

and commend Mr. Holly for his substantial legacy as an official in the sports community of Tennessee, and offer our gratitude for the dedication that he has shown our State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.